

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

1990 Simmons, S.E.
An Investigation of the Archaeological Resources Associated with Piers 5 and 6 and the Harrison's at Pier 5 Complex (18BC62 & 18BC63) Baltimore, Maryland.
Submitted to Center City - Inner Harbor Development, Inc.

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Research Firm/Institution:

Baltimore Center for Urban Archaeology
800 East Lombard Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Sites examined:

18BC62 18BC63

Project Details:

Phase I		Project Justification:	Project Objectives:
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This report describes the findings of Phase II testing in the Inner Harbor area of downtown Baltimore in 1987. At the time, Center City – Inner Harbor Development, Inc. was undertaking the development of a hotel-restaurant complex at the south end of Pier 5. The Harrison's at Pier 5 project called for a 400 seat family-style restaurant, a retail seafood and nautical market, a 46 room inn, a small amount of office space and a crab house and entertainment area located on the Nobska (a historic steamship). The Nobska would be berthed adjacent to Pier 5 at a 300 foot wharf. Other plans for development on Piers 5 and 6 included the Center for Marine Biotechnology, the Center for Maritime Archeology, a maritime museum and a conference center. Partial funding for the development included an Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG). Archeological investigations were initiated in order to satisfy Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for this (partially) publicly-funded project.	Phase II -Identify and record the presence of any structural remains within the project area. -Test for the presence of prehistoric cultural resources. -Determine what types of fill materials were used in the creation of different areas of the piers and how these were distributed horizontally across those areas. Phase III -Locate the structural remains believed to exist at Pier 5 and associated with the industry and maritime concerns documented archivally to be located there. -Identify discrete fill deposits on Pier 5 to better understand the process of pier-building in Baltimore.
Phase III			

Research Potential:

Excavations at 18BC62 revealed significant archeological remains that can be tied directly to historically documented structures and businesses situated in Baltimore's harbor. These intact features are deeply buried beneath fill deposits. Throughout most of the site, it was found that these deposits were too deeply buried to be impacted by construction on Pier 5. In the one area where deeper impacts were likely, data recovery was carried out and sufficiently documented that portion of the site. The remainder of the site, potentially including intact remains associated with past commercial enterprises and heretofore undocumented (archeologically) dwellings at Pier 5, was preserved in place. Additional work is warranted should future development threaten these deeply buried deposits.

While the 1987 excavations did identify an intact road bed and some evidence of the filling sequences associated with the pier, no evidence of historic structures or prehistoric deposits were encountered. The overall interpretation was that 18BC63 lacked integrity and the Pier 6 remains were not likely to yield important prehistoric or historic information. No further work was conducted and construction on Pier 6 was allowed to proceed.